**REMARKS**

This preliminary amendment places the application in a better condition for examination. The Applicant(s) respectfully submit that no new matter has been added.

New Claim 25 is similar to allowed claim 1 of the parent application, with the following changes. The preamble language directed to the range of voltages input has been deleted and the output of the power factor correcting converter is provided to an output circuit. Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are patentable. Support for providing the converter output to an output circuit is provided at page 13, lines 5-11 of the specification.

Various dependent claims describe the output circuit as an inverter. Support for having an inverter as the output circuit is provided at page 13, line 9-11. New Figure 6 shows the system with an inverter output circuit as described on page 13, lines 9-11, which has been amended to refer to Figure 6.

The remaining independent generally have a limitation directed to power factor correcting and providing a welding or cutting output.

Respectfully Submitted

9/17/01

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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

Please amend Page 6 Line 15 as follows:

Figure 4 is a detailed diagram of the pulse width modulator of Figure 1; [and]

Please amend Page 6 Line 17 as follows:

Figure 5 is a control circuit for the auxiliary power controller of the present invention; and

Please insert the following paragraph after Line 18 Page 6

Figure 6 is a block diagram of an alternative embodiment in accordance with the present invention.

Please amend the paragraph at Page 13 Line 5 as follows:

In an alternative embodiment the output of PWM 103 may be rectified by other output rectifiers such as a synchronous rectifier (cycloconverter) that provides an ac output signal at a frequency less than or equal to the frequency of the output of PWM 103. Other output circuits, including inverter 601 (See Figure 6), that provide a welding current may also be used.